

## **Construction of New Water Storage Tanks at the Sutton Hill and Bear Hill reservoir sites**

Article 25 of the Annual Town Meeting on June 5, 2006 approved funding in the amount of \$5,781,061 for construction of new Water Storage Tanks at the Sutton Hill and Bear Hill reservoir sites. The existing reservoirs at each location are in ground storage basins with flexible polypropylene liners and covers. The Sutton Hill Reservoir has two basins, one constructed in 1898 and one in 1936. The Bear Hill Reservoir also has two basins, both constructed in 1985 and modified in 1996.



The existing reservoirs required regular maintenance because of the floating covers and provided minimal protection from deliberate vandalism and contamination. The Sutton Hill Reservoir was also determined to have a chronic water leak from the existing basins. The new tanks, which are constructed of concrete will

eliminate the leaking problem, reduce the level of required maintenance, and provide a much greater level of security against deliberate contamination.

An application for the project was submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Resource Protection for eligibility for a State Revolving Fund Loan. The Project scored well and was determined to be eligible for the loan. Borrowing for the appropriation has been approved by the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust at a 2% interest rate.

The project has moved quickly to construction since an advertisement for bids was conducted prior to the Annual Town Meeting. The contract for construction of the project was awarded to Waterline Industries Corporation of Seabrook N.H.. The contractor was authorized to proceed with the project on July 24, 2006 and immediately mobilized to commence work on the tanks.

Work on the construction of the project is ahead of schedule. Site preparation, demolition of the existing reservoir at Bear Hill, preparation of the tank foundation, and construction of the Bear Hill concrete tank by subcontractor Natgun Corporation have all been completed. Site drainage and waterlines are currently being installed, with filling, startup, and testing of the tank expected in the month of December.

Weather permitting the contractor will continue with backfilling and restoration of the Bear Hill site as well as remobilizing at the Sutton Hill reservoir to begin preparation of that site for Natgun to begin construction of the second storage tank.

Concrete work on the Sutton Hill tank is scheduled to commence in the first week of April 2007, and be completed in October. All site restoration, backfilling, landscaping and punch-list items at both Bear Hill and Sutton Hill should finally be completed at the end of 2007.